

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic apparatus having several operation modes, comprising:

an operation mode setting unit configured to set
5 the operation modes;

a time setting unit configured to set time information for carrying out each operation mode; and

a control unit configured to carry out an operation mode changeover in accordance with the time
10 set by the time setting unit.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the operation modes include a first operation mode and a second operation mode,

the apparatus has a function of turning off
15 a monitor when no operation of the apparatus is made beyond first time in the first operation mode, and turning off the monitor when no operation to the apparatus is made beyond second time shorter than the first time in the second operation mode, and

20 the control unit operates the apparatus in the second operation mode in a specific time zone set by the time setting unit, in order to start the function of turning off the monitor at the second time shorter than the first time.

25 3. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the operation modes include a first operation mode and a second operation mode,

the apparatus has a function of turning off a hard disk drive when no access is made beyond first time in the first operation mode, and turning off the hard disk drive when no access is made beyond second time shorter than the first time in the second operation mode, and

the control unit operates the apparatus in the second operation mode in a specific time zone set by the time setting unit, in order to start the function of turning off the hard disk drive at the second time shorter than the first time in the specific time zone.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the operation modes include a first operation mode and second operation mode,

the apparatus has a function of driving an optical disk drive at a first speed in the first operation mode, and driving the optical disk drive at a second speed later than the first speed in the second operation mode, and

the control unit operates the apparatus in the second operation mode in a specific time zone set by the time setting unit, in order to drive the optical disk drive at the second speed later than the first speed in the specific time zone.

5. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the operation modes include a first operation mode and a second operation mode,

the apparatus has functions of controlling

an operation speed of a processor, a function of
controlling drive or non-drive of a cooling fan, and
a function of carrying out temperature control giving
priority to the drive of the cooling fan rather than
5 the speed reduction of the processor in the first
operation mode and carrying out temperature control
giving priority to the speed reduction of the processor
rather than the drive of the cooling fan in the second
operation mode, and

10 the control unit operates the apparatus in the
second operation mode in specific time zone set by the
time setting unit, in order to carry out temperature
control giving priority to the speed reduction of the
processor rather than the drive of the cooling fan in
15 the specific time zone.

6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
the operation modes include a first operation mode and
a second operation mode,

the apparatus has a function of controlling a
20 drive speed of an optical disk drive, and a function of
driving the optical disk at a first speed in the first
operation mode and driving it at a second speed later
than the first speed in the second operation mode, and

the control unit operates the apparatus in the
25 second operation mode in a specific time zone set by
the time setting unit, in order to drive the optical
disk drive at the second speed later than the first

speed in the specific time zone.

7. An electronic apparatus having several operation modes, comprising:

5 a first setting unit configured to set the operation modes;

a second setting unit configured to set a corresponding time zone for carrying out each operation mode;

10 a third setting unit configured to select an arbitrary operation mode from the operation modes set by the first setting unit in accordance with each time zone set by the second setting unit; and

15 a control unit configured to carry out a changeover to the operation mode set by the first setting unit, that is, the corresponding operation mode selected by the third setting unit in accordance with each time zone set by the second setting unit.

20 8. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the first setting unit sets a first operation mode of turning off a monitor when no operation to the apparatus is made beyond first time, and a second operation mode of turning off the monitor when no operation to the apparatus is made beyond second time shorter than the first time, and

25 the second and third setting unit operate the apparatus in the second operation mode in accordance with a specific time zone, in order to start the

function of turning off the monitor at the second time shorter than the first time in the specific time zone.

9. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the first setting unit sets a first operation mode of turning off a hard disk drive when no access is made beyond first time, and a second operation mode of turning off the hard disk drive when no access is made beyond second time shorter than the first time in the second operation mode, and

10 the second and third setting unit operate the apparatus in the second operation mode in accordance with specific time zone, in order to start the function of turning off the hard disk drive at the second time shorter than the first time in the specific time zone.

15 10. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the first setting unit sets a first operation of driving an optical disk drive at a first speed, and a second operation mode of driving the optical disk drive at a second speed later than the first speed in the second operation mode, and

20 the second and third setting unit operate the apparatus in the second operation mode in accordance with a specific time zone, in order to drive the optical disk drive at the second speed later than the first speed in the specific time zone.

25 11. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the apparatus has a function of controlling operation

speed of a processor and a function of controlling drive or non-drive of a cooling fan,

the first setting unit sets a first operation mode of carrying out temperature control giving priority to
5 the drive of the cooling fan rather than the speed reduction of the processor, and a second operation mode of carrying out temperature control giving priority to the speed reduction of the processor rather than the drive of the cooling fan, and

10 the second and third setting unit operates the apparatus in the second operation mode in accordance with specific time zone, in order to carry out temperature control giving priority to the speed reduction of the processor rather than the drive of
15 the cooling fan in the specific time zone.

12. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the apparatus has a function of controlling a drive speed of an optical disk drive,

the first setting unit sets a first operation mode
20 of driving the optical disk at a first speed and a second operation mode of driving it at a second speed later than the first speed in the second operation mode, and

the second and third setting unit operates the
25 apparatus in the second operation mode in accordance with specific time zone, in order to drive the optical disk drive at the second speed later than the first

speed in the specific time zone.

13. A method of setting an operation mode of an electronic apparatus having several operation modes, comprising:

- 5 setting the operation modes;
- setting time information for carrying out each operation mode; and
- carrying out an operation mode changeover in accordance with the setting time.

10 14. A method of setting an operation mode of an electronic apparatus having several operation modes, comprising:

- setting the operation modes;
- setting corresponding time zone for carrying out
- 15 the operation modes;
- selecting an arbitrary operation mode from the operation modes in accordance with each time zone, and
- carrying out a changeover to the operation mode, that is, the corresponding operation mode in accordance
- 20 with each setting time zone.

15. A computer readable recording medium recording programs for operating a computer having several operation modes as the following functional unit:

- an operation mode setting unit configured to set
- 25 the operation modes;
- a time setting unit configured to set time information for carrying out each operation mode; and

a control unit configured to carry out an operation mode changeover in accordance with the time set by the time setting unit.

5 16. A computer readable recording medium recording programs for operating a computer having several operation modes as the following functional unit:

 a first setting unit configured to set the operation modes;

10 a second setting unit configured to set a corresponding time zone for carrying out each operation mode;

15 a third setting unit configured to select an arbitrary operation mode from the operation modes set by the first setting unit in accordance with each time zone set by the second setting unit; and

20 a control unit configured to carry out a changeover to the operation mode set by the first setting unit, that is, the corresponding operation mode selected by the third setting unit in accordance with each time zone set by the second setting unit.